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Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /066 W
----------100706Z 120563 /21
P R 100620Z FEB 77
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4363
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN
COMIDEASTFOR
NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA
NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI
CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0108

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS ET
SUBJECT: MORE DEMONSTRATIONS
V
REF: ASMARA 0087 (DTG 031355Z FEB 77)

1. LATE AFTERNOON OF WED. FEB 8, EPMG AUTHORITIES QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY SPREAD WORD THROUGHOUT CITY THAT A SPONTANEOUS MASS DEMONSTRATION WOULD BE HELD MORNING OF FEB 9. KEBELE (PRECINCT) COMMITTEES AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES WERE USED TO INFORM POPULACE AND WORD SPREAD EXCEEDINGLY FAST. AT FIRST BLUSH, AUTHORITIES APPEAR FAR BETTER ORGANIZED TO COLLECT AND CONTROL PEOPLE; ALL MAIN STREETS EXCEPT ONE ARE BLOCKED TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC. POP-ULACE IS TO GATHER AT THE GOVERNMENT TRANSPORTATION DEPOT NEAR THE
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HQ OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION, AND APPARENTLY IS TO REMAIN IN PLACE FOR EASIER SECURITY.

2. GENERAL PURPOSE OF DEMONSTRATION IS TO SHOW POPULAR SUPPORT OF EPMG FOR WEATHERING COUP ATTEMPT OF FEBRUARY 3. SECOND AND PROBABLY MORE COGENT PURPOSE IS TO COUNTER EFFECT OF ALLEGED POP-ULAR DEMONSTRATION IN KHARTOUM. ASMARA RADIO ANNOUNCED RECENT

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GATHERING OF ERITREANS IN KHARTOUM TO SUPPORT NIMEIRI. AS REACTION, ERITREANS IN ASMARA ARE TO DEMONSTRATE IN OPPOSITION TO NIMEIRI.

3. OUR ESTIMATE IS THAT PEOPLE ARE GREATLY RELUCTANT TO DEMONSTRATE IN THIS CAUSE BUT FEEL CONSTRAINED TO APPEAR OR HAVE EXCEEDINGLY GOOD EXCUSE. FOR FEB 3 DEMONSTRATION, EPMG MEDIA CLAIMED TURNOUT OF 100,000 PARTICIPANTS VERSUS CONGEN ESTIMATE OF 5-6,000. TIGHTER SECURITY PRECAUTIONS MAY PUSH NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS OVER LAST WEEK'S TOTAL, ALTHOUGH BOTH PARTICIPANTS AND CONGEN ANTICIPATE SOME EFFORT BY INSURGENTS TO DISRUPT FESTIVITIES.

4. CONGEN AND KAGNEW ARE IMPLEMENTING SECURITY MEASURES SIMILAR TO THOSE OF LAST WEEK IN EVENT OF ANTI-AMERICAN SPIN-OFF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PROPAGANDA, PROVINCE
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Retention: 0
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SAS ID: 3358746
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORE DEMONSTRATIONS V
TAGS: PINS, ET
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
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